

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

MARVEL

SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF

RATZOPHINE

CLIVE BARKER

3
NOV

\$1.75 U.S.



Welcome
to the
Ectosphere!



EctoKid



HOPE YOU SURVIVE YOUR STAY!

OBI

DIRECT EDITION



00311
7 59606 02568

SURGE
PANZSIAN



IN THE FRENCH QUARTER OF
NEW ORLEANS, THERE IS A
BUILDING LONG AGO
CONCERNED.

IT IS A FORGOTTEN PLACE,
A QUIET HUBB; ITS HINDQWS
DARK AND EMPTY, LIKE THE
SOCKETS OF A SKULL.

IT IS IN THIS BUILDING
THAT DEX MUNSO HAS
MADE A HOME.

LEAVING HIS BODY HIDDEN
HERE, DEX SWITCHES THE
EYE PATCH FROM LEFT TO
RIGHT AND PROPELS HIS
GHOST INTO...

--THE ECTOSPHERE!

MAN, THIS
PLACE IS
STRANGE.

SCARY.

I KIND OF
LIKE
IT.

CLIVE BARRICA PRESENTS

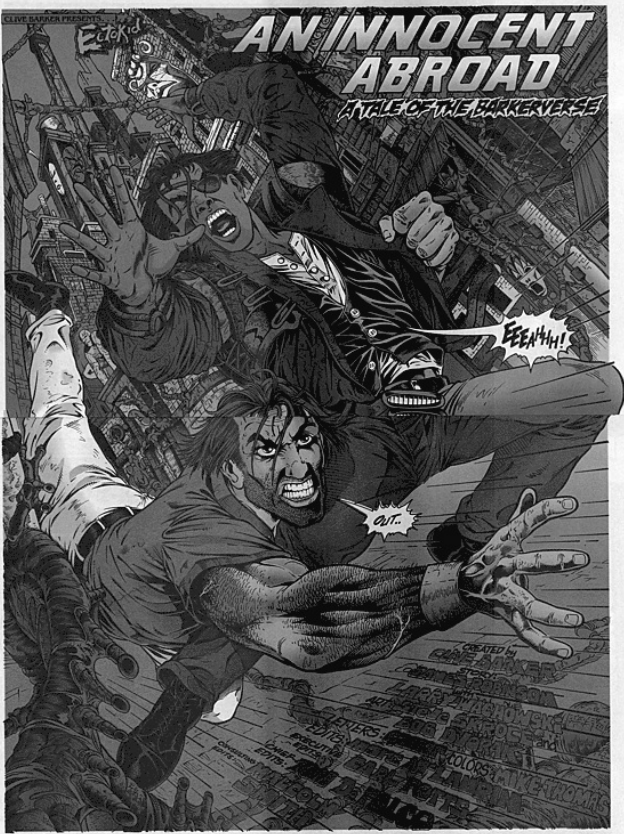
Extokid

AN INNOCENT ABROAD

A TALE OF THE BARKERVERSE

EEEN'HH!

OUT..



CREATED BY
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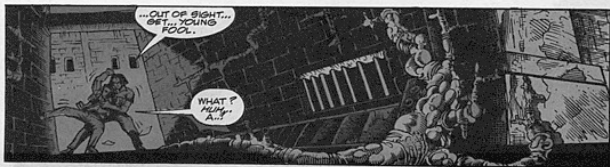
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...OUT OF SIGHT...
GET... YOUNG
FOOL.

WHAT?
HEH...
A...



YOU'RE THE SON OF
LEO MELLHART,
AREN'T YOU? WELL,
AREN'T YOU?

I'M...
YEAH,
I'M...



RECOGNIZED YOU
FROM A PHOTO-
GRAPH HE LEFT OF
YOU.

YOU KNOW MY
FATHER?
WHERE IS HE?
WHERE --



I SAID "PHOTO HE
LEFT"... AS IN "HE'S
GONE AND LEFT IT
BEHIND".

HE'S GONE?
WHERE?

HE DIDN'T SAY...
DELIBERATELY.
HE WENT INTO
HIDING. SUR-
MISED THE LESS
PEOPLE KNEW
WHERE, THE LESS
WOULD FIND
OUT.



WELL IF YOU ARE A FRIEND
OF MY DADDY, YOU'VE A
WAYS AND A HALF O'
SHOWING IT.

THE PARTS OF ME THAT
AREN'T BROKEN FEEL
LIKE THEY'RE BROKEN.

FORGIVE ME,
FOOLISH KNAVE
THAT I AM, I
SAW YOU, I
ACTED.

ON THESE
STREETS
THERE'S
MUCH
DANGER.

DANGER? I SAW
PEOPLE OUT
PROMENADING LIKE
IT'S EASTER
SUNDAY. NOT ONE
GAVE ME A SECOND
GLANCE!

AND IT'S BROAD
DAYLIGHT! SKY'S A
FUNNY COLOR,
I'LL GRANT YOU,
BUT...

HUSH, YOUNG
MELLHART.

MUNGO. NAME'S
MUNGO.

MUNGO
MELLHART?
CATCHY.

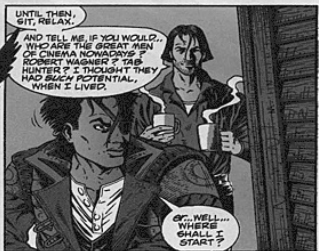
NO, MY
NAME'S
DEX
MUN--

HAVE YOU NOT
EARS? I
SAID HUSH!

THERE, THE
DANGER
I SPOKE OF.

WHO?





HOURS PASS. JINDRAK ENRAPTURED, LEARNS NEW NAMES APLENTY. PACINO, DE NIRO, NICHOLSON, AND MANY ARE THE TALES OF HOFFMAN.

SO THIS DRY-LEWIS FELLOW, HE'S GOOD, YOU SAY?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW. ACTING'S NOT MY GIG... HE'S VERSATILE.

IN ONE MOVIE HE'S STOPPING A SOCCER BALL WITH HIS HEAD AND IN THE NEXT, HE'S UNDER A WATERFALL... SCREAMING TO SOME GIRL TO STAY ALIVE AND THAT HE'LL FIND HER.

AND HE WON AN OSCAR FOR THIS... SCREAMING UNDER THE WATERFALL?

WELL... NO.

ACTUALLY HE WON IT FOR STOPPING THE SOCCER BALL WITH HIS HEAD.

EXCUSE ME.

I TRUST THIS INTRUSION DOESN'T PRECLUDE SOME FINE DISCOURSE.

YOU... I... KNOW... CAN'T BE...

I'M A FRIEND OF YOUR FATHER, DEX.



THE NAME'S POE,
EDGAR ALLAN POE.
AND IT'S AN HONOR
TO MEET YOU.

HONOR...
M...MINE...

HERE, I'VE COME
WITH FRIENDS.
INSIDE, GENTLE-
MEN, THE NIGHT'S
A COLD ONE.



PLEASE ALLOW
ME TO INTRODUCE...

MCINTY, AN EX-SLAVE,
BROUGHT MAGIC FROM
THE DARK CONTINENT
WITH HIM. A GOOD
MAN TO HAVE IN YOUR
CORNER. PLAYS A
BRAND GAME OF
CHESS, I MIGHT
ADD.



THIS IS KYLE, A LOCKSMITH
BY TRADE. HIS LOYALTY TO
YOUR FATHER'S AS SECURE
AS HIS LABOR'S FRUIT.

HOWDY.



AND WITH MINE
OWN EYES... I'VE
WITNESSED BILLY
TACKLE'S SAILOR'S
STRENGTH SAVE
YOUR FATHER
TWICE IN TIMES
YORE.

uh.

BUT HE'S A
MAN OF FEW
SYLLABLES.

LASTLY,
MAY I
PRESENT...



YOU!
SWORDSMAN!
I...

MASTER DEX
AND I HAVE
MET.

HE SAVED
ME...
I WOULD'A
DIED...

FISH POSH. 'TWA'S NOTHING.
BUT I THINK AN INTRODUCTION'S
REQUIRED. CYRANO DE
BERGERAC... AT YOUR
SERVICE.



BUT I THOUGHT...WEREN'T
YOU FICTION... OR ?

FICTIONS WERE WRITTEN
OF MY LIFE. BALZAC'S
THE KINDEST. BUT NO,
I LIVED, I DIED.



AND DO YOU...DO ANY
OF YOU KNOW WHERE
I CAN FIND MY FATHER?

NAY, LAD, YOUR
FATHER FEARED THE
DANGER. SUCH
KNOWLEDGE WOULD
BRING ON US.

BUT...



...I DO HAVE A
LETTER.
ENTRUSTED TO
ME...TO GIVE TO
YOU.

TO ME?
FROM ?

FATHER. IT'S FROM
MY FATHER.



YES!
HAAHAAHAA!









CAN WE HOLD
ON HERE--UP
HERE?

I THINK SO. DON'T KNOW... KNOW HOW MANY ARE STILL ALIVE.

BY THE SKIN
OF OUR TEETH!

WHAT WERE
THOSE THINGS?

THEN
WE'VE
DONE
IT!



THEY MAY VERY WELL HAVE
BEEN CONJURED BY *LE*
VOISIN. SHE--AND THE
EXPURGATORIUS--THEY
WANT YOU VERY *BADLY*!

BUT WE'VE STOPPED
THEM *HERE*! I THINK
THOSE FEW INSIDE MIGHT
BE IT.

BUGG!
I HATE
BUGG!

KALUNCH



A MOMENT'S RESPIRE
THEN? PERHAPS A
QUICK REFRESHMENT
TO CLEAR OUR HEADS,
GENTLEMEN?

WAIT.
WHAT
IS THAT
SOUND?

EDGAR,
PUT
THAT
AWAY!

OH NO.





AT ONCE IT BECOMES
APPARENT TO EVERY
EYEL ON THAT ROOFTOP.

NO MATTER HOW HARD THESE
HEROES FIGHT, NO MATTER
HOW LONG THEY STAND...





WE'LL SAID, BILLY! LET US
SHOW THESE HIDEOUS
HORDES THE STUFF
OF HEROES!



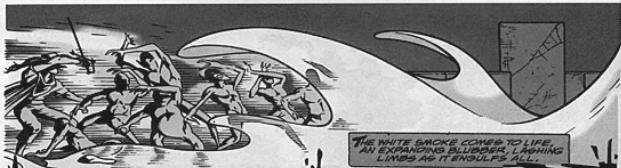
THE VERY DOORS
OF HELL HAVE OPENED
ONTO OUR LAPS!



THEY'RE ALL OVER
ME! LORD HELP
MY POOR SOUL!









THAT HIS FIRST TRIP
INTO THE ECTOSPHERE--

--COULD BE
HIS LAST!

NEXT

THE GHOST OF AN EXOTIC
DANCER SENDS WHAT'S
LEFT OF DEX INTO THE MAW
OF THE BROTHER'S AUGUSTINE!

SPLASHDOWN!

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EDITOR

Ectokid

endings and beginnings

Marcus McLaurin

A friend of mine never ceased to amaze me with his ability to ease cleanly out of one relationship and into another, a skill he deemed the art of the Seamless Transition. Though it often made names a difficult thing for me to keep up with, I still had to admire his dexterity. This issue is our homage to the seamless transition.

This book marks the end of James Robinson's tenure as ECTOKID scribe, and we thank him for enduring the birthing pains and helping to give the baby its first legs. James' announcement that he wouldn't be continuing on this series was met with understandable, though amicable surprise. *Que sera, sera.* And James, consummate pro that he is, give us a generous amount of time to find feet worthy to fill the old Dr. Martens shoes he left behind. And in that interim, we found Larry Wachowski, who till this day still swears he wasn't lost. Some people.

the power that Larry built

The first thing that Larry had to do was figure an out for the ending you've just read. And the way he gets out of it (no, I'm not going to tell you how he did it, not just yet) was so amazing that it not only added to the dimension of Dex's character and abilities, but also gave him a significant new aspect to his power. I'll leave the final judgment up to you (as if there was ever an alternative) but I find it one of the freshest approaches to a new ability that I've ever seen. I think it'll knock your ectoplasmic socks off.

Larry's view of Dex's place in the Ectosphere was immediately holistic, transforming it from a bizarre land before the afterlife to a truly troubled realm. Rather than a realm composed of all the dead who ever were, Larry's Ectosphere is peopled with those souls who cling too closely and tightly and vibrantly to a life that is over, for whatever reason, and cannot move on. It's a whole other world, with a whole new playground.

where to go from here

From here, the promise is unending. Larry's excited. Clive's excited. And Steve, as you guys've gotta know by now,

is that once in a lifetime, lightning-in-a-bottle kind of excitement, come to life.

And let's not forget the lynchpin of our creative crew, inker in extremis Bob Dvorak, who looked at Steve's pencils so much and so intently on that first issue that his eyes started to water. Or was that sweat? Anyway, Bob is a true find in an age where an inker can make or break a book based on his ability as a draftsman—as if there were any other age of standard. Truly talented artists who can ink are a commodity as valuable as a platinum ashcan edition. If you'll forgive the contradiction in terms....

And me? Well, I'm rather pleased, myself.

I've learned from various "informants" across the country (he said in his best Maxwell Smart voice) that ECTOKID's promise is being fulfilled in store after store. Read that to say that ECTOKID #1, at this writing, has completely sold out at every store I've been able to contact! It is becoming a true rarity in this market—a true collectors item!

And small wonder, with the amount of coverage this landmark imprint has gotten, thanks to its creator and benefactor and overseer, Clive Barker!

entertainment this week

This summer, Clive spent inordinate amounts of time away from his busy schedule as a writer, director and producer to talk about his newest and dearest brainchild, the Razorline imprint. If you're as dedicated a videophile as I am, you might have caught his appearance on Wednesday, August 4th on Entertainment Tonight where he talked about the RAZORLINE phenomenon, focusing on the first two releases, HYPERKIND and this book you're reading now. That appearance followed up major media coverage on the *EI News*, and numerous interviews from the *Austin Chronicle* to the *Atlantic City Gazette*. And all that is besides the interviews and features he produced for comics-specific media including *Comic Buyers Guide*, *Wizard*, *Hero*, *Comic Shop News* and *Comics Scene*, to name but a few. As we're able, we'll try and provide you with excerpts from those interviews, to give you an idea of the behind-the-scenes happen-

ings we've been putting Clive through!

Clive has put in appearances at Marvel Mega-Tour stops in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and New York, as well as guesting at conventions in the Big Apple, in Dallas, and in San Diego. Basically, if you haven't seen him, it's because you weren't looking.

We've kept Clive extraordinarily busy, but at this writing it appears that hard work has paid off. Ladies and gentlemen, you've got a hit on your hands, and we thank you for your support.

demand more

But we realize there are some of you out there anxious to jump on our bandwagon, but finding it difficult to find some of our earlier issues due to drastic under-ordering. We hear you. So, let me now announce, if you haven't heard already (fanfare, please...), that we will be going back to press for a second printing of the first issues of each of the RAZORLINE titles!

This reprinting is due, of course, to the incredible demand for these titles, coupled

with Clive's desire to make sure everyone has a chance to get in on this amazing new universe from the ground floor. But to assure you get your copies of these books, make sure to reserve your copy from your local retailer!

the tour

Also, to make sure we get to have your personal comments on the RAZORLINE, we are currently organizing a RAZORLINE tour to coincide with the launch of three more titles in the spring of 1994.

If you're interested in meeting some of the Razorline creators and viewing some of the actual artwork being transported across country as part of the RAZORLINE art show, please let us know. Have the sponsoring comic store in your area write us at the address above and we'll jump right on getting all the arrangements made!

Incidentally, that address is also where you should send your comments and ideas for a letters page title—and next issue, instead of my ramblings, this space will feature your comments on ECTOKID #1!

Next in ECTOKID #4:

If Dex survives his return from the Ectosphere—and we're making no promises here—he definitely won't fare as well after his first fatal confrontation with The Brothers Augustine!

Be here for "Are The Brothers My Keeper?"

Next week in HOKUM & HEX #3:

Meet Wrath—a beautiful and deadly bounty hunter hired to find out the truth behind Trip's "magic"! She's determined to make him her ultimate trophy—dead or alive!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

SAINT SINNER #3:

At last, the demon and the angel at war within the soul of Phillip Fetter have all their secrets revealed! But every truth has its price, as the demon is on the verge of screaming free—and killing Saint Sinner in the process!

HYPERKIND #4:

The hyperkind are at the mercy of Paragon John, the most dangerous man in the Barkerverse! Discover with them the sinister secret behind the Age Without Heroes—and you might just get to live to tell about it!